

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MADRID 07140 202034Z

71

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

CU-02 MCT-01 ACDA-07 /070 W
----- 104973

P R 201643Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE PRIORITY 7202

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENAHGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

USEC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 7140

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SP

SUBJECT: INTERIOR MINISTER VISITS BASQUE PROVINCES

REF: MADRID 6919, 6977

1. INTERIOR MINISTER MARTIN VILLA COMPLETES HIS VISIT TO
THREE OF SPAIN'S FOUR BASQUE PROVINCES TODAY IN ALAVA, DUR-
ING STOPS IN GUIPUZCOA(SEPT 17) AND VIZCAYA (SEPT 18-19).
MARTIN VILLA, WHO MADE IT CLEAR FROM THE OUTSET THAT THE
PURPOSE OF HIS TRIP WAS TO GAIN FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE OF BASQUE
PROBLEMS, DID A GREAT DEAL OF LISTENING BUT APPARENTLY PRO-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MADRID 07140 202034Z

MISSED NOTHING.TODAY'S PRESS REMORED THAT HE DISCUSSED WITH

PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS A POSSIBLE VISIT BY THE KING TO THE BASQUE COUNTRY.

2. DURING HIS ONE DAY STAY IN THE GUIPUZCOAN CAPITAL OF SAN SEBASTIAN, MARTIN VILLA MET, AMONG OTHERS, WITH THE CIVIL AND MILITARY GOVERNORS, THE PROVINCES MAYOR GUIPUZCAO'S "CORTES" MEMBERS, PRIVATE SECTORS REPRESENTED IVES AND LABOR LEADERS, THE PROVINCES LEADING CHURCH MAN, AND MEMBERS OF THE CIVIL GUARD AND ARMED POLICE. THIS PATTERN WAS LATER IN VIZCAYA, AND ALAVA.)

3. IN ADDITION TO THE SHOOTING OF A BASQUE YOUTH IN FUENTERABIA (REFTELS. WHICH PRECIPITATED MARTIN VILLA'S VISIT),THE PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS DISCUSSED BY THE INTERIOR MINISTER, HIS PARTY AND THEIR INTERLOCUTORS REPORTEDLY INCLUDED: THE ROLE OF THE PUBLIC ORDER FORCES AND THE STRENGTHENING OF THE AUTHORITY OF LOCAL AND PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS OVER THE POLICE AND CIVIL GUARD: AUTHORIZATION TO FLY THE BASQUE FLAG, REINSTITUTION OF SPECIAL BASQUE ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND POLITICAL PRIVILEGES (FUEROS) "OFFICIAL" STATUS FOR THE BASQUE LANGUAGE. AND STATE SUPPORT FOR BASQUE LANGUAGE SCHOOLS.

4. THROUGHOUT THE TRIP THUS FAR, MARTIN VILLAS HAS EMPASIZED THE GOVT'S COMMITMENT TO GUARANTEEING DEMOCRATIC RIGHT AND FREEDOMS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME INSURING THAT THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE WILL NOT BE UNDERMINED. THROUGHMEETINGS WITH A RELATIVELY BROAD SPECTRUM OF PROVINCIAL FIGURES, SYMBOLIC GESTURES, SUCH AS A TRIP TO GUERNICA, THE THRINE OF BASQUE NATIONALISM AND VISIT TO CIVIL GUARD AND ARMED POLICE UNITS. THE INTERIOR MINISTER CLEARLY IS ATTEMPTING TO CONVEY THE MESSAGE THAT THE GOVT WILL LISTEN TO AND ATTEMPT TO REPEND TO WHAT IT CONSIDERS TO BE LEGITIMATE BASQUE GRIVANCES, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME GUARANTEEING THE MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ORDER.AS MARTIN VILLA TOLD ASSEMBLED CITY OFFICIALS IN BILBOA, "AT A TIME WHEN POLITICAL RIGHTS ARE BEING EXPANDED, IT IS MORE NECESSARY THAN EVER THAT AUTHORITY BE EXERCISED IN ORDER THAT THE TRANSITION TOWARD DEMOCRATICGOALS CAN BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MADRID 07140 202034Z

CARRIED OUT PEACEFULLY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW".

5. IN THE SAME ADDRESS, MARTIN VILLA REAFFIRMED THE CONSTITUENT NATURE OF THE PARLIAMENT TO BE ELECTED NEXT YEAR AND MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE FUTURE RELATIONSHIP OF THE BASQUE PROVINCES AND OTHER REGIONS TO THE CENTRAL GOVT WOULD BE LEFT TO THAT AND SUBSEQUENT PARLIAMENTS TO DECIDE. ACCORDING TO THE INTERIOR MINISTER, "THE

DEFINITIVE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE REGIONS IS A
CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTION, AND IT IS LOGICAL THAT IT BE
REPRESENTATIVES ELECTED FREELY BY THE PEOPLE WHO DETERMINE
THE JURIDICAL POLITICAL NATURE OF THE VARIOUS REGIONS
WHICH MAKE UP THE PERMANENT SPANISH STATE."
STABLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROVINCE, MINISTERIAL VISITS, POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MADRID07140
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760355-0293
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760941/aaaabjle.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MADRID 6919
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERIOR MINISTER VISITS BASQUE PROVINCES
TAGS: PINT, SP, (VILLA, MARTIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006